



MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

Website: www.millbaygardenclub.com Email: mbgcnewsletter@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 2015

Next Meeting

September 22, 2015



September Brag Table Theme:

SEPTEMBER SEDUM

With plant and flower identification and commentary provided by Barb Kohlman, the Brag Table is a great part of our monthly meetings. It's a fun and interactive way to share what's going on in your garden without having 150 club members trying to find parking outside of your house. The bonus is a prize awarded randomly to one of the monthly participants in this program. If you've never participated, give it a fling, be it flower, vegetable or fungus.

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER:

Barb Kohlman, Master Gardener
"Year Round Colour With Bulbs"

Added Bonus: Dinter's will be there with bulbs for sale. Bring some cash if you'd like to buy bulbs.



DON'T FORGET!

**BRING YOUR MUG
FOR THE BREAK!**



September Kitchen Duties:

Mary-Ellen Deuling

1 litre of 2% milk:

Anela Witherspoon

Cookies/ Goodies:

Pauline Dueck; Debbie Craig; Cori-Lee Fisher

Kitchen Helpers:

Shelagh John; Celine Eggleston

Set up / Clean Up:

Volunteers needed for set up this month.
Please come early to help if you can.

Remember to bring your mug!

MILL BAY GARDEN CLUB

NEW EXECUTIVE and General Committee Leads for 2015/2016



From Left: Janice Rose (*Library*); Mary Gale (*Historian*); Pauline Dueck (*Facebook/Social Networking*); Carmel Haley (*Raffle*); Marie Cooke (*Treasurer*); Arlene Dench (*Membership*); Mary Vandenberg (*Vice-President*); Kerry Davis (*Website*); Pip Woodcock (*President*); Dianne Regan (*Kitchen*); Mary-Ellen Deuling (*Kitchen*); Cliff Stainsby (*Past-President*)

Missing: Janet Abbott (*Secretary*); Monika Morgan (*Plant Table*); Bobbie Burns (*Raffle*); Cori-Lee Fisher (*Newsletter*)

President's Report

Pip Woodcock

Welcome to another year of Garden Club activities which look to be as exciting and informative as always. There are a lot of new faces on the Executive so the start of the year will be interesting as we put on our boots and find our feet and, with the guidance of those seasoned members who are returning, we will be able to nurture, fertilise and grow this inspiring, fun club.

I am sure that our gardening (watering) practices have altered over this lovely hot, dry summer – it will be interesting to hear stories from each other on the inventive ways we have used to keep our much loved plants alive. I could almost hear the ground going “Slurp, slurp” as the rain started to fall. Gazing out over Cowichan Bay at the brilliant double rainbow everything looked much greener and more lively.

At the beginning of this new season on behalf of the Mill Bay Garden Club and our companion group the Mill Bay Community Flower and Garden Show, I wish to thank the many people and businesses in the Cowichan Valley who supported our efforts to raise money for organisations that provide important community services. Because of their generosity at our monthly Garden Club meetings and by donating to the Plant Sale and Silent Auction at the Flower and Garden Show the Charities we supported are: Providence Farm, Somenos Transition House and Cowichan Valley Hospice.

Looking forward to seeing you at our first meeting of the season on Tuesday, 22nd. September at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start.

Pip Woodcock.



Vice-President's Report

Mary Vandenberg

Welcome back to another season at the Mill Bay Garden Club. We've got some great speakers lined up for you.

At the September meeting, Barb Kohlman, Master Gardener, is going to give us an interesting talk on “Year Round Colour With Bulbs”. To coincide with this, Dinter's will be there with a selection of bulbs for you to purchase. Bring some cash with you if you'd like to buy bulbs.

We always appreciate receiving ideas for topics and speakers. If you have any ideas and also if you know of anyone who can deliver the topic, please let us know. I'm going to pass around some paper at the September meeting. Please feel free to write down any ideas and hand them back in. Thank you!

I look forward to seeing you at our September 22nd meeting!

Library Report

Janice Rose

Please return all those books and magazines that were borrowed during the summer. Any ideas for new books or publications are most welcome. We want to make this the best Garden Club Library in the world!

Your Friendly Librarian, Janice Rose

Raffle Report

Carmel Haley

A big THANK YOU to these local businesses for supplying us with prizes at our AGM last June!



**RUSTICANA
COFFEE**

Dear Members,

We are always in need of raffle items each month. If you wish to contribute to our monthly raffle table and have something you think members would find interesting or useful, or perhaps the fruits of your labour - from your garden or farm, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact: Bobbie (rmburns@shaw.ca) or Carmel (carmelhaley@gmail.com) or bring the item with you to the next meeting.

We appreciate your support :)

Cards by Mary Gale

If you know of someone in the club who is sick, or in hospital please let Mary Gale know and she will send a card on behalf of the Mill Bay Garden Club. Mary's phone number is 250-743-9329



Mill Bay Garden Club

General Meeting Minutes
Tuesday May 26, 2015

President – Cliff Stainsby

- 7 p.m. Call to order.
- Acceptance of agenda.
- Motion to accept minutes for April meeting.
 - ◊ Moved by Bill Herring
 - ◊ Seconded by Ajay Oppelaar
- Thank you to set up crew.
- Signup sheet for September and October kitchen duty and set up crew circulated.
- CVRD to repaint yellow strip on steps. CVRD is checking into having a railing installed on the steps. The purpose of the concrete pad is for use by the Blood Donor Clinic truck.
- Front doors will be open for members to use. It is a no step entrance.
- AGM Tuesday June 23.
 - ◊ Bring pot luck dish to share, chairs, plates, cutlery, napkins, place mats, coffee cups, beverage, glasses and outrageous garden hat.
 - ◊ 5:00 to 5:30 setup.
 - ◊ Located at Mike and Bonnie Mills home.
 - ◊ Full instructions posted in online newsletter.

Flower & Garden Show – Bernie Juurlink

- Committee Chairs are:
 - ◊ Judges – Dianne Regan
 - ◊ Publicity - Celine Eggleston
- Outside Vendors – Mary Ellen Dueling
 - ◊ Signs & programs – Cori Lee Fisher
 - ◊ Silent Auction – Norman Redcliffe
 - ◊ Treasurer – Janice Rose
 - ◊ Plant donations – Elaine Scott
 - ◊ Angie Stanton, interior organization. Requires volunteers for set up and take down.
- 16 lawn signs ready for pickup tonight. Please return them at AGM. Put signs in place Sunday June 7th.
- Silent auction donation forms available at the meeting tonight.

Vice President – Joy Story

- Tonight's speaker is Dustin Carlson. He will talk about mushrooms.
- Vice President position open. You can nominate someone by contacting Joy with a name, she will then contact them.
- Saturday May 30th, 10am - noon
five gardens to view:
Bill Herring
Dot Garbet

- ◊ Carmen Stanek
- ◊ Sunny Smith
- ◊ Charmian Horner
- Saturday, June 6th, 10am - 1pm
 - ◊ Luciano Corvelo
- Sunday June 14th, 1 - 4pm
 - ◊ Ali Morris
- Saturday July 4th
 - ◊ Ajay Oppelaar

Treasurer's Report – Gale McIntyre

- \$1747.69 balance.
- We have a \$20 gift certificate from Dinter Nursery for Al & Liz Murray who hosted last month's speaker.

Facebook – Pauline Dueck

- CFGS – share the event.

Library – Janice Rose

- Judging Standards pamphlets available with guidelines for entering your flower and vegetables.
- Pat donated flower arranging magazines.

Plant Sales – Heather Jenkins

Tomato plants and irises for sale.

Members Forum

- Stephanie - Cowichan Valley Garden Club
 - ◊ Will advertise and publish details of CFGS.
 - ◊ Spring Flower Show & Tea at St Peter's on Saturday May 30 1 - 4, \$3 admission, \$4 for tea.
- Elaine Scott is looking for plant donations for CFGS.
- Anita
 - ◊ Eco plant sale being held Saturday June 6th, 10 - 2pm at Cobble Hill School.
 - ◊ Shawnigan Lake School gardens are open to the public.
- Pamela – Cowichan Green Community
 - ◊ Since 2001 the focus has been on food security.
 - ◊ Community Food Forest located at 360 Duncan Street, Duncan.
 - ◊ Fruit Save Committee
 - * Contact Pamela if you have excess fruit. 1/3 to owner, 1/3 to fruit pickers, 1/3 to food banks.

General Meeting Minutes cont'd

- * 2014 - 6000 lbs of fruit, 3000 lbs donated to food banks, 1600 lbs fallen fruit to cows, sheep and pigs.
- * Unwanted garden tools are sold with proceeds going back into the community.

Brag Table – Elaine Scott

- Three different irises in bloom right now including northern California native, Siberian and Bearded. Japanese, which have flat petals, are not out yet.

Q & A – Bill Herring

- Any plant heading out early means it is stressed. Could be due to lack of water.
- Everything is 2-3 weeks earlier this year.
- 1.2" of rain since end of March.
- 5 brown leaves on garlic means it's time to harvest.

Coffee Break

Raffle – Carmel Haley & Bobbie Burns

- Donations tonight from members John & Ann and Barbara.

Speaker – Dustin Carlson: "Mushrooms"

Meeting adjourned

IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Membership is very reasonably priced at \$10 per year. Your dues go toward running the club, paying for speakers and the donation to local charities at the end of the year. Another bonus of membership is receiving the newsletter and notifications of upcoming events. **Cash Only, please.**

GO GREEN !

Purchase a permanent MBGC name tag (green background; white letters) from Arlene Dench at the Membership Table for one-time purchase price of \$10 cash!

Gardening Tips

By Barb Kohlman, Master Gardener



This column coming in October

Watch for it!!

Providence Farm Nursery looking for Volunteers from MBGC

Martin, the nursery manager, is looking for enthusiastic club members to help in the following ways...



Volunteers are needed to:

- Forage the Providence Farm property for native and heritage seed varieties and to take cuttings to start in the greenhouse.
- Seed a variety of plant material in the greenhouse depending on the time of year
- Assist with regular greenhouse tasks of watering, fertilizing and weeding.

If interested, please contact Martin at:
250-710-5429 or greenhouse@providence.bc.ca

Mill Bay Garden Club Marketplace

From club member Rosalie Power of Gill-Power Hobby Farm —
(www.gillpowerhobbyfarm.vpweb.ca):



LOOKING FOR A HOME FOR A FEW MONTHS FOR
BLACK WELSH MOUNTAIN SHEEP

RAMS CAN BE USED FOR BREEDING OR JUST FOR
GRAZING AND KEEPING THE WEEDS CUT

CONTACT: ROSALIE POWER
gillpower@shaw.ca or [250-743-1990](tel:250-743-1990)

September/October Workshops

at

The Gardens at HCP (Horticulture Centre of the Pacific)

505 Quayle Road, Victoria, BC

250-479-6162 www.hcp.ca

Small Trees for the Urban Garden

Date/Time: September 26, 2015 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Admire at close hand many of the introduced and native trees which add contrast to the HCP's grounds. HCP instructor Diane Pierce will guide a walk about the gardens and then in the classroom will share specifics about the smaller trees which are far more suited to our home gardens.

HCP Members \$25

Non-Members \$35

To sign up: At HCP front office, by phone 250-479-6162 or communityed@hcp.ca

Willow Chair Workshop

Date/Time: September 27, 2015 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

In one day, with Andrew Kent's expert instruction, you can make and take home your own Bent Willow Rustic Chair. This is a great introduction to rustic building. Learn how to make a square frame from pieces of alder & work with different sizes of willow to create your chair. All tools will be provided. Work with a friend or alone. Please wear appropriate clothing & bring a lunch.

HCP Members \$250.00

Non-HCP Members \$275.00

To sign up: At HCP front office, by phone 250-479-6162 or communityed@hcp.ca

Flower Arranging

Date/Time: October 04, 2015 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

This workshop will include learning about what flowers you can grow for cutting, care of cut flowers, and making your own beautiful fall arrangement on the spot. Flowers and a lovely container will be provided along with instruction on how to make your own centrepiece. Eiddwen is a local flower farmer/floral designer. She sells flowers at the Sidney market and Saanich Peninsula Market and enjoys doing floral design for weddings and special events.

HCP Members \$85.00

Non-HCP Members \$95.00

To sign up: At HCP front office, by phone 250-479-6162 or communityed@hcp.ca

November Workshop

The Seven Principles of Xeriscape

Vancouver Island Master Gardeners Association invites you to hear Gwen Steele, from the Okanagan, who will be presenting a 5 hour workshop on "**The Seven Principles of Xeriscape**".

Date: Sunday, November 8th

Time: 11:00am to 4:30pm (starts promptly!)

Place: 6000 Oliver Road, Nanaimo

Cost: \$20 per person (same workshop in Okanagan is \$50/person)

Contact: Irene Toulouse toulousei@shaw.ca to register. **Space is Limited!!**

Other: Bring your own bag lunch and mug for complimentary tea and coffee

With this hot dry summer and predictions of more to come, xeriscape has become a hot topic with many local gardeners.

Xeriscape: "often incorrectly spelled zero-scaping or xeroscaping, is landscaping and gardening that reduces or eliminates the need for supplemental water from irrigation"

For Your Viewing Pleasure!



The Sept/Oct issue of "The Bulletin" from BC Council of Gardens can be found at this website:

<http://bcgardenclubs.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/2015-SeptOct.pdf>

(if you cannot click on link above, please copy and paste into your internet browser to view)